

Northwestern Local Human Right Committee

The next scheduled meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Right Committee will be on May 10, 2011 at NW Works in Winchester, VA.

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2011 LHRC MEETING

The March 8, 2011 meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee was held at Grafton in Winchester, VA.

Members Present: Mr. Fred Sabia, Chair; and Ms. Jeannie Decker

Affiliates Present: Chuck Collins & Mark Seymour (Advocates); Cathy Wolfe-Heberle (Blue Ridge Opportunities); Denise Wiitale McFall (Bridging the Gaps, PC); Eileen Martelli (Children's Services of VA); Brian Kesner (Community Alternatives of VA); Scott Worley (Creative Family Solutions); Heidi Fields (Family Preservation, Inc.); Clif MacDonald (Good Life Corporation); Kelly Coffman, S. Howell & Amy Smith (Grafton); Heather Wilhide (Heart Havens, Inc.); Christian Rousseau (Intensive Supervision); Eddie Cassidy (Lord Fairfax House); Cassie Phipps (Lutheran Family Services); Carol Lucking (National Counseling Group); Mark Gleason (NWCSB); Emily Johnson (NOVA Family Services, Inc.); Betsey Anderson & Glenda Anderson (NW Works); Tammie Wittman (Robert E. Rose Memorial); Sheila Hice (Shen-Paco); Nina Haslacker (SVCR); Karen Tompkins (Timber Ridge School); Lana Hurt (Wall Residences); Mandy Caracofe, Rhonda Foster, Stephany D. (Where the Heart Is); and Gayle Shanholtz (Winchester Medical Center).

Affiliates Absent: A Place to Call Home, Blue Ridge Residential Services, and WINC Community Mental Health Center.

Others Present: Katie Bundrick.

Call To Order: Mr. Sabia called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone. He thanked Grafton for hosting and everyone for coming.

Introductions: Mr. Sabia asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves.

Meeting Minutes:

Public Comments: Ms. Cassie Phipps from Lutheran Family Services asked if LHRC meetings could be held during the day. The board will look into the availability of everyone before making a decision to change the meeting time.

Comments by LHRC Affiliates or Members:

- Ms. Phipps from Lutheran Family Services announced that they are continuing to expand their behavioral treatment. This is due to the change in how DMAS processes referrals.
- Ms. Shanholtz from Winchester Medical Center informed the board that they are bringing a certification course to WMC. There are two course offerings, June 9-10 and June 23-24. The course is titled The Certified Nurse Manager and Leader. Ms. Shanholtz will email the information to Ms. Bundrick who will send it to all the affiliates.
- Ms. Tompkins from Timber Ridge told the board about their friends of Timber Ridge meeting and dinner. Secretary William A. Hazel participated and there were over 100 people in attendance.
- Ms. Smith from Grafton shared with the board that Grafton is a finalist in the first Virginia Healthcare Innovators Award for best practices in trauma-informed treatment and care.

Advocate Update:

Mr. Collins informed the board that he will be participating in Winchester Medical Center's conference on emergency services. This conference is titled "I'm leaving and you can't stop me" and will educate staff on what they need to know when dealing with mental health patients. This conference may be offered to the public if the May 2 course is a success. Mr. Collins will be giving a Human Rights Training at NW Works on March 30. All are invited to attend. Please let Ms. Betsey Anderson know if you are planning to come either by calling her or emailing her at banderson@nwworks.com.

Mr. Joe Lynch from the State Human Rights Committee will be visiting Harrisonburg LHRC and Western State Hospitals LHRC. Mr. Collins is thinking about asking him to attend one of our meetings. The State Human Rights Committee has proposed a number of changes for each LHRC. First, they would like each LHRC to draft new bi-laws. Second, the affiliation agreement is not allowed to charge fees for providers. Third, it is proposed that each provider must report on a quarterly basis.

The new budget for the state proposes 250 new MR wavier slots. How many of these our area might see are still unknown. Western State has broken ground on their new hospital. The Department of Justice has released its findings of their ongoing review of Central Virginia Training Center. How this will affect us is still unclear.

Mr. Seymour stated that the state human rights committee has proposed these changes due to the local human rights committees running differently. The challenges will be greater this year but as a LHRC we have handled many challenges well this past year.

Program Reports:

- Blue Ridge Opportunities
- Community Alternatives of VA
- Creative Family Solutions
- Family Preservation, Inc.
- Good Life Corporation
- Children's Services of VA

Old Business: None.

New Business: Mr. McDonald from Good Life Corporation requested the use of side rails on a patient's hospital bed. Approval for this was deferred to the next LHRC meeting but Mr. McDonald was told to go ahead and implement this restraint. Mr. Worley from Creative Family Solutions requested permanent affiliation. This was deferred to the next LHRC meeting but they will continue temporary affiliation until this can be voted on. Ms. Anderson from NW Works requested the approval of their revised "Worker Handbook". This also was deferred until the next LHRC meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:31. The next meeting of the LHRC will be at NW Works in Winchester.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Catherine E. Bundrick, NWCS Administrative Assistant

Fred Sabia, Chair

Mark Gleason, LHRC Liaison

